

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6608

ANSWERED ON:09.05.2002

DECLINE IN OIL PRODUCTION

A. VENKATESH NAIK;ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the energy specialist estimates that Oil production likely to decline within the next 10 to 15 years as the economical viable reserves start to run out;

(b) if so, whether the Governments across the world are urgently seeking ways of switching from conventional energy sources to hydrogen gas as the ultimate clean fuel; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar)

(a) & (b): As reported in the `Hindu` dated 15.4.2002, Energy specialists estimate that oil production will start to decline within the next 10 to 15 years, as the economically viable reserves start to run out.

The report also indicates that Governments across the world are urgently seeking ways of switching from conventional energy sources such as coal, gas and nuclear power to cleaner and safer alternatives, including hydrogen gas, known to be the ultimate clean fuel.

(c): Government of India has been according due priority to non-conventional energy sources, including hydrogen gas. Research and Development projects on various aspects of hydrogen energy, including production, storage and use of hydrogen as a fuel, have been taken up at Government level as well as by independent agencies and institutions.